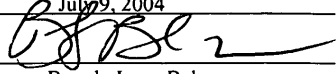




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By:   
Brendy Lynn Belony**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : Michikazu HORIE  
Filed : October 15, 2003  
For : OPTICAL RECORDING....  
Serial Number : 10/686,760

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 9, 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Enclosed is a copy of a Notification of Reason for Refusal with an English Translation dated April 13, 2004 from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application. Also attached is Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC issued on April 8, 2004. All of the documents listed in Form PTO-1449 appear in the Notification of reason for Refusal and the Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bean', is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas J. Bean  
Reg. No. 44,528

Customer Number: 026304  
Docket No: SAN 18.676A



please type plus sign (+) →

Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1449/PTO

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office

Application No. : 10/686,760

Filing Date : October 15, 2003

First Named Inventor: M. HORIE

Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : SAN 18.676A

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD- YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

**FOREIGN DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		0 893 794 A2	EP	SONY CORP	01-27-1999	
		09-231612	JP	SONY COPR	09-05-1997	

**Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
		Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC, April 8, 2004	
		Notification of Reason for Refusal April 13, 2004	

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1<sup>1</sup> if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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